

Figure 5. A bottom tripod system being deployed from RV *Oceanus*. Similar systems were used to collect near-bottom observations at Stations A, B and C. The tripod was lowered to the seafloor on the ship's trawl wire. Once on the bottom, the acoustic release (yellow canister just above the tripod) was activated, detaching the deployment line; the top orange float brought the wire to the surface. Plywood squares were tied to the lead anchor feet to inhibit settling into the muddy bottom at Stations A and B. For recovery, an acoustic release on the tripod released the orange float on the tripod and brought a line to the surface.